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the country became Germanized; but the reports of the decisions of the King's Court have been preserved, and a study of them should be of the greatest value to a student of our own legal history.

J. H. B.

**ELEMENTS OF THE LAW OF BAILMENTS AND CARRIERS**, including Pledge and Pawn and Innkeepers. By Philip T. Van Zile. Chicago: Callaghan & Co. 1902. pp. lvii, 785. 8vo.

This is an especially interesting book. The law of bailments and the allied subjects here treated has, as its foundation, principles which are as old as civilization, but which in spite of their primitive origin still persist as governing rules for our modern complex business system. This phase of the subject is given prominence by the work, and the flexibility and adaptability of our common law are thus excellently illustrated.

The writer first treats bailment in general, outlining the history, nature, and classification of the relation, and thus indicating with clearness and discrimination the rights and liabilities incident to the relation in each of the general classes. The succeeding portion of the book deals with the more specialized forms of bailments and related subjects under the titles of Pledge or Pawn, Innkeepers and Boarding-house Keepers, Carriers, and Carriers of Passengers. The section on pledge is particularly good in its treatment of the pledge of negotiable and non-negotiable securities. That on innkeepers brings into accessible form peculiar and not unimportant principles of law not often so fully treated. Fully half of the book is devoted to the law of carriers, and this important branch is carefully and thoroughly analyzed in its many complex details and modern applications. There is also a brief section on the Post-office Department and the liability of its servants.

The book is not, and does not purport to be, a work of originality. It merely restates in clear, concise, and well digested form old well established principles together with those that are still in the process of development. This is done in a free, sketchy style which shows the effect of the author's long experience as a lecturer and adds not a little to the value and attractiveness of the volume, especially as it is likely to prove particularly a student's book. It will nevertheless become a valuable hand-book for practitioners from its concise analysis of an important subject. While not a great book, or an especially noteworthy accession to legal literature, this work is distinctly commendable.

W. H. H.

**THE LAW OF INSURANCE—FIRE, LIFE, ACCIDENT, GUARANTEE.** By William A. Kerr. St. Paul: Keefe-Davidson Co. 1902. pp. xi, 917. 8vo.

The author of this book has attempted to give a concise statement of the law of non-maritime insurance as laid down by the courts in decided cases. In brief, he has prepared a large number of head-notes which have been classified and arranged under appropriate divisions and subdivisions of the subject. In support of each proposition the corresponding authority is cited. Mr. Kerr frankly states that his aim has been merely to provide a convenient aid and guide to investigation of the actual state of the law. He has no theories to advance and does not discuss the reasons which gave rise to the existing law, but is content to state what that law is and where it may be found. For this reason the work will be of little value to the student. On the other hand, it will probably find a ready welcome to the shelves of the busy practitioner.

S. L. C.